

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 00930 190109Z
ACTION EA-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 507

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FOR EA ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, RP
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC PROJECTS

1. ON JANUARY 16, DURING COURSE OF GOVERNOR GILLIGAN'S VISIT TO PHILIPPINES, WE MADE ONE HOUR STOP AT SUBIC AND TOOK HELICOPTER TRIP TO BASE PERIMETER AND OLONGAPO AREA.
2. IN GOVERNOR GILLIGAN'S DISCUSSION WITH ME OF POSSIBLE ECONOMIC PROJECTS RELATED TO BASE DISCUSSIONS, HE SAID HE DID NOT DESIRE TO SEEK CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR ECONOMIC PROJECTS WHICH, ALTHOUGH NOT STATED, WERE CLEARLY RELATED TO SECURITY INTERESTS. HE SEEMED TO HAVE IN MIND PARTICULARLY SOME OF THE PROJECTS DISCUSSED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PANAMA CANAL.
3. I SAID I FELT WE WERE SENSITIZED TO THE CONGRESSIONAL PROBLEM AND WE WERE NOT PROPOSING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WHICH COULD NOT BE PRESENTED FRANKLY TO THE CONGRESS. WE DID FEEL THAT THE SPECIAL SITUATIONS AT OLONGAPO AND THE CLARK PERIMETER PRESENTED OPPORTUNITIES WHICH WERE NOT ONLY IDENTIFIED BY THE FILIPINOS AS WITHIN THEIR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY BUT ALSO WERE WITHIN AID'S DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES AND WITHIN CONTEXT OF AID PROJECTS WITH COUNTRY OR REGIONAL FOCUS, E.G., RURAL SERVICE

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CENTERS. I MENTIONED PARTICULARLY POSSIBILITIES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND REFORESTATION.

4. PRESIDENT MARCOS WAS FULLY AWARE THAT FRANK CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON ANY PART OF BASE PACKAGE WOULD BE NECESSARY. I, THEREFORE, FELT THAT IF SATISFACTORY PROJECT IDEAS COULD BE CREATED, ASSISTANCE TO SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN

THESE AREAS COULD BE PRESENTED TO CONGRESS AS APPROPRIATE
AND DESIRABLE.

5. THE GOVERNOR MADE NO COMMITMENT BUT DID COMMENT THAT HE
HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY REALIZED THAT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT
WAS EQUALLY INTERESTED IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS IN
THESE AREAS. JACK SULLIVAN WAS NOT WITH US AT SUBIC BUT I
BRIEFED HIM LATER ON OUR CONVERSATION.
NEWSOM

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